## Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20426



Re:

FOIA No. FY19-44,

MAR 2 9 2019

Response Letter

## **VIA ELECTRONIC AND REGULAR MAIL**

Austin Evers American Oversight 1030 15<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite B255 Washington, DC 20005 foia@americanoversight.org

Dear Mr. Evers:

This is a response to your correspondence received on February 14, 2019, in which you requested information pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) FOIA regulations, 18 C.F.R. § 388.108 (2018). Specifically, you requested:

All records reflecting communications (including email messages, email attachments, calendar invitations, memoranda or background material for meetings, or handwritten or typed notes taken during meetings) between any political appointees at your agency and any employee or representative of Ballard Partners, including, but not limited to, any of the following individuals:

- a) Any individual using an email address ending in ballardfl.com,
- b) Brian Ballard,
- c) Sylvester Lukis,
- d) Susan "Susie" Wiles,
- e) Dan McFaul,
- f) Rebecca Benn,
- g) Justin Sayfie,
- h) James "Jamie" Rubin,
- i) Otto Reich,
- j) Raj Shah,
- k) Pam Bondi,
- 1) Robert Wexler,
- m) Jose Felix Diaz,
- n) Katherine San Pedro,
- o) Karl Bowers,
- p) Sara Pennington,
- q) Hannah Walters, or
- r) Sara Nuvy.



FOIA No. FY19-44 -2-

A search of the Commission's non-public files identified one document responsive to this request. The document is enclosed.

As provided by the FOIA and 18 C.F.R. §388.110(a)(1) of the Commission's regulations, any appeal from this determination must be filed within 90 days of the date of this letter. The appeal must be in writing, addressed to James P. Danly, General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20426, and clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please include a copy to Charles A. Beamon, Associate General Counsel, General and Administrative Law, at the same address.

You have the right to seek dispute resolution services from the FOIA Public Liaison of the agency or the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue your appeal. You may contact OGIS by email at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at (877) 684-6448; facsimile at (301) 837-0348; or by mail to the Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001.

Sincerely,

Leonard M. Tao

Director

Office of External Affairs

Enclosure



From: To: Travis Fisher
Susie Wiles

Cc:

Dan McFaul RE: Eagle LNG

Subject: Date:

Wednesday, July 18, 2018 3:25:00 PM

Hi Susie,

I am hearing that Carolyn gave you the insight you were looking for. I just want to make sure we have been responsive to your questions—do you and I need to reconnect on this issue or anything else? I'm trying to be as helpful as possible.

Best, Travis

From: Susie Wiles [mailto:susie@ballardfl.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 9:09 PM **To:** Travis Fisher < Travis.Fisher@ferc.gov> **Cc:** Dan McFaul < dan@ballardfl.com>

Subject: Eagle LNG

Travis,

Many thanks again for your prompt and professional response. Much appreciated.

To recap, in my ongoing discussions with Anthony, he said that a solution to the impossibly long processing time for a small scale LNG project in Jacksonville, Florida, Eagle LNG should locate and identify a private individual, laboratory or company (3<sup>rd</sup> party contractor) that could perform the dispersion models that Anthony has advised are holding up approval of the DEIS for Eagle.

The company has identified that that two contractors, Gexcon and Neptune are able to run PHAST and FLACS models for thermal and vapor dispersion to FERC specifications. I have been advised that these are the two matters (including fire where we know 3<sup>rd</sup> party contractors are permitted) that are holding up our DEIS approval.

As we have repeatedly explained to FERC staff, DOE staff and other member of the Administration, these overly lengthy delays make investors evaporate, disincentivize project development generally, curtail job growth and generally slow growth in this sector, despite demand. Allowing responsible companies, under strict FERC guidelines and supervision, to utilize external, non-federal personnel to perform required evaluations seems to be a common sense way to eliminate the stifling backlog.

I would be grateful for any insight and assistance you can provide and, again, thank you for your timely response.

Best,



## Susie Wiles

Susan Summerall Wiles Partner, Ballard Partners 601 13<sup>th</sup> Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 (202)800-5620

